Robert A. Vlack

"Numismatist"

AMERICAN COLONIALS, STATE COINAGE, EARLY WASHINGTON, CANADIAN TOKENS, EARLY ENGLISH COPPER

TEL. NO. (617)
535-2828

~~20 Prince Street~~
~~West Peabody Massachusetts~~
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hamp. 03865

August 2, 1966

Mr. Eric P. Newman
400 Washington Ave.
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Missouri 63178

Dear Eric,

You must have been psychic as I was just getting ready to write to you. I have enclosed a most interesting piece and as usual would value your opinion regarding it. I purchased it from a dealer who apparently located the piece in Canada. It was cruddy black when I got the piece and I am guilty of the cleaning, but, it did reveal some interesting facts which I could not see otherwise and that is the double or triple punching into the coin. At first I thought it to be an out and out phoney, but, now I don't know anymore. It is not listed as any of the genuines, copies, or forgeries, though you may have more information It is struck poor enough to be genuine. Anyhow, have fun with it and let me know as soon as ~~xp~~ possible as I am most anxious to know.

I have just purchased an AUCTORI PLEBIS Token, the forgery, from Spink & Son who sold it to me as the forgery.

Your question regarding the Silver Farthings. You have the only known (to me) 2.5a^1-K.10i^1 struck in Silver. Mrs. Norweb, Craige, and myself all own the 2.5b^1-K.8e^2 of which I am to understand there were 12 struck, and all were in Proof condition.

I would love to go to the ANA Convention but find it impossible to go. I would have loved to have seen you and had a get together once again like we did in Cleveland. Perhaps next year.

There isn't much else that is new. How's my photo's on the Virginia's coming? What is new with the Machin Mills? What's new with George? How come you aren't on a safari this year? The person I least expected to hear from in the middle of Summer was you. Oh well, I shall look forward to hearing from you.

Bob

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~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hamp. 03865

October 17, 1966

Dear Eric,

If these counterfeits do not excite you, nothing will. I am not even sure they are all counterfeits but I felt they might be. I have added some of the envelopes they were in, but all of the coins were out of the envelopes when I got them so they may not necessarily be in the right envelopes. This is a shame as information of this nature is tremendous in value in tracing past references.

I have reviewed the Sterns collection as well as I could, but there is enough in the entire lot to keep me busy for quite some time. I have definately attributed all of the known varieties but there are die states which need work on. These dealers who do not appreciate this sort of effort should be shot. I wish I had seen the original collection before coins were wantonly removed from their original envelopes. There is all sorts of data on them.

I had quite a job of talking them into letting me take these for numismatic research, but they did, providing they were returned rather quickly. In this regard, do what you can for me. I know you shall photograph them so please send me a copy of the photographs as well, okay. I try to maintain some sort of a file myself on this sort of junk.

I trust you are still having fun with the NE sixpence. My curiosity is overpowering in your findings. ~~Hope~~ May you be successful.

I have just returned Dick Pickers Oak Tree Threepence which he calls obverse 27 reverse 26. I disagree with him on this completely as he is using a die state in his differentiation. Perhaps you have seen this already. I've checked all of the Pine Tree 36's and 37's, and they were all alike with the funny G. There were 5 36's and 1 37.

Guess that's about it for now. Get these back to me as soon as possible.

Very sincerely,

Bob

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LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hamp. 03865

January 16, 1967

Dear Eric,

It was very nice talking with you on the telephone the other day. It seems that so much more can be said this way than over the typewriter.

I have enclosed my new Pine Tree shilling which should excite you to some extent. As I have mentioned already, the lettering is almost identical to your Noe 12 and this should prove most interesting even to the point of proving something or other. I notice even the numbers are the same.

I sent a rubbing of this to Dick Picker, though he wanted to see the piece as well, but, I feel that the comparison with your Noe 12 is of primary importance and thus you have first honors.

I shall be looking forward to seeing this book of yours. I've even held up selling my duplicates until I see exactly what is what. I am sure it will be great knowing you have had your feet in it.

What is new with the Machin Mills pieces? I have to date recorded 25 different Machin Mills pieces with the GEORGIVS III REX obverse and the regular BRITANNIA reverse. Getting any information from you is like pulling hen's teeth and I hate floundering around with these not knowing all the different varieties that exist. These that I have recorded I am sure of, but, there are others that are so doubtful. Perhaps one of these days, huh?

Well, get this back to me as soon as you can so I can forward it to Mr. Picker. He is chomping at the bit I am sure.

Very sincerely,

Bob

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

January 23, 1967

Mr. Robert Vlack
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

Dear Bob:

I want to congratulate you on your great find of a new obverse and a new reverse of a Pine Tree Shilling. I spent all day Saturday working on it and what a pleasant bit of fun it was. I poured over its features and checked and rechecked them against my Noe 12. The same die maker made both. I'll guess that your piece came from the Gastine hoard too. Its short weight of 57 grains could be due to its obverse being eaten away chemically or polished off or both. I'm sorry its obverse is terrible.

In my opinion there is no doubt that it is genuine. I cannot find anything to doubt, even a little bit, and I'm not sick.

I want to take its picture and give you a full report of the details I have noted.

God bless your studious perseverance. Hail to the discoverer. Thanks for sending it me to and shortly I'll get it to you, or, if you want, to Picker.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN
atb

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6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

January 23, 1967

Mr. Robert Vlack
LaPerle Avenue
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In my opinion there is no doubt that it is genuine. I cannot find anything to doubt, even a little bit, and I'm not sick.

I want to take its picture and give you a full report of the details I have noted.

God bless your studious perseverance. Hail to the discoverer. Thanks for sending it me to and shortly I'll get it to you, or, if you want, to Picker.

Sincerely,

Eric

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LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hamp. 03865

Jan. 28, 1967

Dear Eric,

Thank you for your letter, it was like music to my ears. I still have a shred of doubt in my mind, but, I am generally that way anyhow, I would rather believe it a forgery and try to prove it genuine. I wish the NE Sixpence was in the same catagory.

Now this brings up that point, where is all that other stuff? Have you sent it on, or do you still have it? I noticed you had not mentioned it ~~y~~ in your letter, and I would hate to lose all that junk especially since it does not belong to me yet. I intend to purchase the whole bunch, if for nothing else, just to get it out of circulation.

By all means send the new Shilling to Dick Picker. I heard from ~~y~~ him just recently and he requested to see the piece. I sent him a rubbing and he is really curious.

I will look forward to your analysis of this piece as compared to your Noe 12. Meanwhile all else is quiet.

Very sincerely,

Bob